## Amendments to the Claims

- (currently amended) A network device, comprising:
- a) a converter operable to receive a packet data stream and to convert a the packet data stream to a public switched telephone network data stream; and
  - b) a controller operable to:
  - i) send signals in the public switched telephone network data stream identifying the network device as a packet device;
  - ii) receive signals indicating at least one other network devices are is participating in a public switched transmission session with the network device; and
  - send the packet data stream across the public switched transmission network directly to the at least one other network device.
  - 2. (original) The network device of claim 1, wherein the network device is a voice gateway.
  - 3. (original) The network device of claim 1, wherein the packet data stream further comprises coded voice.
  - 4. (original) The network device of claim 1, wherein the packet data stream further comprises data.
  - 5. (original) The network device of claim 1, wherein the converter further comprises a voice coder/decoder.
  - 6. (original) The network device of claim 1, wherein the converter further comprises a modem.
  - 7. (original) The network device of claim 1, wherein the controller uses ITU V.8 protocols.
  - 8. (original) The network device of claim 1, wherein the controller uses robbed-bit signaling.

- 9. (original) The network device of claim 1, wherein the controller is a processor configured to execute all control operations.
- 10. (original) The network device of claim 1, wherein the controller further comprises more than one integrated circuit.
- 11. (currently amended) A network device, comprising:
- a means for receiving a packet data stream and converting a packet data stream to a public switched transmission network data stream; and
- b) a means for controlling the network device, wherein controlling the network device includes:
  - i) sending signals in the public switched telephone network data stream identifying the network device as a packet device;
  - ii) receiving signals indicating at least one other network devices are participating in a public switched transmission session with the network device; and
  - sending the packet data stream across the public switched transmission network directly to the at least one other network device.
- 12. (currently amended) A method of transmitting a packet data stream across a public switched telephone network, the method comprising:
- establishing a communication session between a first network device and other devices across a public switched telephone network by transmission of a public switched telephone network data stream;
- b) using transmission of identifying signals to identify at least one other network device participating in the communication session as a packet device; and
- e) altering the communication session between the first network device and the at least one other network device to transmit a packet data stream without performing any public switched telephone network conversion.

- 13. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein establishing a communication session further comprises dialing out of a packet domain to a public switched telephone network domain.
- 14. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein using transmission of identifying signals further comprises transmitting signals in accordance with ITU Recommendation V.8.
- 15. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein altering the communication session further comprises eliminating a conversion through a voice coder/decoder.
- 16. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein altering the communication session further comprises eliminating a conversion through a modern.
- 17. (currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the method further comprises:
  - a) gathering information on the at least one other network device; and
  - b) storing the information for future use.
- 18. (currently amended) The method of claim 17, wherein using transmission of identifying signals further comprises:
- a) accessing a storage of known network devices based upon the identifying signals;
  - b) locating information about the at least one other network device; and
  - e) using that information in altering the communication session.
- 19. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein using transmission of identifying signals further comprises the first network device sending the identifying signals.
- 20. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein using transmission of identifying signals further comprises the first network device receiving and responding to identifying signals sent by another network device.
- 21. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium including software code that, when executed, results in:

- a) establishment of a communication session between a first network device and other devices across a public switched telephone network by transmission of a public switched telephone network data stream;
- b) use of identifying signals to identify at least one other network device participating in the communication session; and
- e) alteration of the communication session between the first network device and the at least one other network device to transmit a packet data stream across the public switched telephone network without performing any public switched telephone network conversion.